

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel Claims 1 and 3.

1.-14. (canceled)

Add the following new claims:

15. (new) A method of processing data in a data storage device, comprising:

- (a) reading data from a data sector;
- (b) if step (a) is unsuccessful, initiating a data overwrite process by changing a pointer information of the data to RDM(d);
- (c) preparing a spare sector and changing the pointer information to RDM(s);
- (d) writing the data to the spare sector and conducting a read test thereof;
- (e) if the read test of step (d) is unsuccessful, repeating steps (c) and (d);
- (f) if the read test of step (d) is successful, storing the pointer information to RDM(s);
- (g) if step (f) is unsuccessful, switching the pointer information back to RDM(d) and then performing step (o);
- (h) if step (f) is successful, switching the pointer information back to RDM(d);
- (i) overwriting the data sector and conducting a read test thereof;
- (j) if step (i) is unsuccessful, changing the pointer information to RDM(s) and then performing step (o);
- (k) if step (i) is successful, releasing the spare sector;
- (l) changing and storing the pointer information to RDM(d);
- (m) if step (l) is unsuccessful, the pointer information remains RDM(s) and then performing step (o);
- (n) if step (l) is successful, proceeding to the next step; and

(o) ending the method.

16. (new) A method of overwriting data in a disk drive storage device, comprising:

(a) attempting to read data from data sectors until a predetermined number of

attempts is attempted;

(b) if the data cannot be read in step (a), initiating a data overwrite process by changing a pointer information of the data to RDM(d);

(c) preparing spare sectors and changing the pointer information to RDM(s);

(d) attempting to write the data to the spare sectors and conduct a read test thereof for the predetermined number of attempts;

(e) if the read test of step (d) is unsuccessful, repeating steps (c) and (d);

(f) if the read test of step (d) is successful, attempting to store the pointer information to RDM(s) for the predetermined number of attempts;

(g) if the pointer information is not stored in step (f) is unsuccessful, switching the pointer information back to RDM(d) and then performing step (o);

(h) if the pointer information is stored in step (f), switching the pointer information back to RDM(d);

(i) attempting to overwrite the data sectors and conduct a read test thereof for the predetermined number of attempts;

(j) if the read test of step (i) is unsuccessful, changing the pointer information to RDM(s) and then performing step (o);

(k) if the read test of step (i) is successful, releasing the spare sectors;

(l) attempting to change and store the pointer information to RDM(d);

- (m) if the pointer information is not stored in step (l), the pointer information remains RDM(s) and then performing step (o);
- (n) if the pointer information is stored in step (l), proceeding to the next step; and
- (o) ending the method.